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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1917.

Congress.

There is every indication that the new Congress will aid unity of counsel in the nation, rather than impede it.

It will buckle down to the great task before it with the splendid vigor it always shows when questions of national defense and national safety are involved. It will not tolerate pettifoggery, log-rolling, or "small-town" stuff.

It will find a new Washington before it, a Washington stripped for action, thinking in terms of war and of nothing else. It will find a government well on its way towards the creation of the greatest war machine in the world; the machine which is going to win, unless the knock-out blow comes before it reaches its maximum striking force.

It will bring to Washington the opinion and the sentiment of the millions "at home" who are sending sons to the front, giving their savings to the cause, steeling themselves to all manner of sacrifices for the honor of America.

It will bring to the Capital their interrogations, their complaints. Among these will be the growing problems of food prices, and it may find that it may be better for the national weal to make Mr. Hoover a real dictator over questions of foodstuffs, rather than to clothe him with half authority.

It will ask that the President and his government give a strict accounting of his stewardship. This it will get, for the war, despite the censorship which suffers from an excess of zeal and amateurishness, is being conducted in a way which will bear the light of day, without dark recesses which we would be ashamed to reveal to the world.

It will be a new Congress and a better Congress. Its work will be an impressive display of our national team-work.

A Jarring Note.

What prompted Lord Lansdowne to write his sensational letter to the London Telegraph regarding war aims probably will not be made known until the allied political clouds have entirely cleared.

"Peace by understanding" or "peace by negotiation" heretofore has been exclusively German and neutral property. There is little opposition to the postulate that the future peace of the world will depend upon taking back Germany into the family of nations, upon rejecting all imperialist demands for a punitive peace settlement, and upon refusing to sow the seeds of future wars by keeping alive the doctrine of hate. Academically, that position is right. Specifically, and particularly at the present moment, it is wrong. It is an appeal to a German public opinion that does not exist; or if it exists, it is embryonic and without power of expression. By the majority of Germans it will be interpreted as evidence of allied weakness, an index of their anxiety for peace. Berlin would ask nothing better than the submission of such terms as Lansdowne attempts to outline for them.

Even President Wilson, who is at least a partial convert to the re-statement-of-war-aims policy, is understood to feel that the present moment is inopportune for such a reiteration. Col. House may bring up the subject informally at the Paris conference. Nothing is more certain than that such a discussion will be purely incidental, if it is entered into at all. For months the American people have been hammering upon the one chord that the nation must talk war, not peace; it has regarded peace propaganda here as almost seditious; the President told Pope Benedict that the word of the present German government cannot be taken as a guarantee "of anything that is to endure."

As to Russia, it is not evident how the situation there is to be helped by the Lansdowne policy. Lenin and Trotsky are working hand-in-hand with Germany towards a definite goal, and the immediate future in Russia, at least, is to be black. There is no public opinion in Russia that counts now. The Bolsheviks are not open to allied logic, since it has submitted to the blandishments of Germany.

The discussion of the Lansdowne proposal in the house of commons will be awaited with interest.

Concerning Slackers.

There are two kinds of slackers in this war. The slacker who tries to evade service at the front, and the slacker who evades more prosaic duties at home because he is afraid not to go.

After all the noise about it, there has been comparatively little slackism of the first class in the United States. The American breed in all its varied tints and mixtures has proved sound in fiber. We have had little trouble in this country with the "conscientious objector"—compared to Great Britain's travail with these degenerates.

The number of men with consciences too tender to allow them to do their duty to the country which has raised and protected them is slight. There have been some genuine cases of religious scruples, but most of these have met satisfactorily the real test between conscience and cowardice. That test is the willingness to do noncombatant service in hospitals or in the engineering branches.

The Quakers—a sect which furnishes a great number of fighting men, by the way, despite its formulas and education—have leaped to the opportunities of serving their country under fire as engineers or hospital and ambulance men. When a man is willing to be shot at—although he objects to shooting himself—it is supercilious, not cowardice, which really rules his "conscience."

But of the other class, men over the draft age with heavy family responsibilities, who have left their wives and babies to the doubtful issue of self-support while they have sought the gold and black hat cord of a second lieutenant with its pay insufficient to keep a family at the rear and a man at the front, we have heard little, although there are many of them. They are not the real stuff. There is a flaw in such material which may crack under fire. It is good to hear that they are being weeded out of the training camps and denied commissions wherever the camp commanders bear the facts.

On Loose Rails and Headed Into the Ditch.

The railroad situation grows more critical every hour, and the climax threatened seems to be due to two failures—failure of financial support of the many weak lines and failure in the courage or power of authorized management.

It is evident that there is no financial remedy in the raising of rates through permission of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Raised rates, raised cost of living, raised wages of the employees, and then another raise of rates! It is a clear-cut circle, in which our railroad economies go 'round and 'round, to ultimately fall exhausted, a dead failure.

It points straight at governmental ownership, at least governmental ownership of the weaker lines, with government providing funds for necessary new equipment, fixing rates and costs of operation and allowing such profits as sound finances warrant.

It will be remembered that, upon the declaration of war, President Wilson notified the railroads to prepare themselves for risk. He plainly disclosed his extreme unwillingness to risk a general business upheaval by commandeering the greatest of our industries, the railroads, and a Railroad War Board was created, consisting of our ablest railroad men. Into the hands of this board the leading railroad system promptly put almost unlimited power.

This Railroad War Board has worked hard, persistently and with a patriotic ardor that merits the country's gratitude, and it has accomplished much. But, either through lack of courage, or lack of authority to act in drastic fashion, trains of fuel are side-tracked with people in adjacent communities freezing, harvests are not half marketed and mountains of potatoes and other vegetables are rotting because of faulty traffic management.

The passenger traffic going on today aside from troop movements is a reproach upon the term traffic conservation. The recommendation placing transportation of certain articles under the ban of war has not been adopted and pushed so that anybody can see and feel it. Of course, such measures are conscriptive, but such conscription, courageously and impartially carried out, seems to be the last and only available recourse before conscription of the railroads bodily.

On the level now, does turkey sound as good to you as it did on Thursday morning?

Gen. Crowder thinks that the blow that will shatter autocracy will be the blow of a strong right arm. With due regard for a strong full stomach, of course.

Byng's drive knocks six miles off the 600 miles to Berlin. It is a slow war. It will take Uncle Sam to quicken the pace. Save money, save food and you'll save lives and time!

New Russia's first donation to the cause of world-wide democracy may be the release of about 1,000,000 German prisoners, whom German autocracy can use in beating up democracy.

Dr. Anna Shaw urges a "smokeless Friday," so that there'll be more tobacco for the soldier boys. All right. Cabbage or alfalfa for us! Not a kick in us until somebody gets up a payless Saturday.

During the war 122 ships have disappeared from the seas "without trace." It is suspected that the Von Luxburg policy has been working for some time. "Dead men tell no tales" on submarine or raider.

An evening contemporary announces the appearance of the first issue of "Camouflage." As the publication was published in Washington about a month ago and has been sold in all the theaters since, some one must be sleeping.

According to cablegrams in hand, Gen. Kaledines has got 'em. He has seized the whole Russian system of railways and proposes to starve the Bolsheviks out of Petrograd. If you can't shoot 'em, starve 'em! Only the most able-bodied Bolsheviks can live on proclamations as a regular diet.

A fellow might stand his butcher and grocer off, raise a corking Thanksgiving dinner, and then go into bankruptcy. But, thunder! they've got even the cost of that raised so high that it wouldn't pay. What's the Salvation Army going to serve up?

Earl Godwin would like to know "if any other scheme than the thrift campaign was ever advertised by the postoffice from door to door, free." Certainly. Right here in his own town Postmaster Chance put out circulars on the liberty loan campaign and the food conservation campaign. Perhaps Earl was busy riding on that ice wagon.

Herr Dernburg, one of the Teutonic spies who got out of our midst without being hung, has published an essay in which he says that steadfastness and righteousness are the German characteristics. "When we resort to lies," he adds, "we are coarse and fail." From the latter, we judge that there is still some truth in some German professional liars.

The Score.

Speaking of golfing in a Washington club, Senator John W. Weeks, of Massachusetts, referred to the great enthusiasm of the patrons of that game and fittingly recalled this little story.

Jones was a golf fan of the dyed-in-the-wool brand. When he wasn't playing golf he was talking golf, and between those intervals he happily dreamed of putts and drives. One afternoon Jones ran across an elderly preacher from his boyhood town.

"By the way, Mr. Brown," said the golfer, after many reminiscences had been exchanged, "I must ask you about those three old maiden sisters who used to live on Main street when I was a boy. I suppose they never left Jacksonville."

"Miss Ophelia and Miss Phoebe went to heaven about two years ago," answered the parson, with the due amount of impressiveness, "but Miss Patience is still in Jacksonville."

"I see," musingly rejoined the golfing enthusiast, "2 up and 1 to go."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Good-by, Booze—and Germany.

At to each day, in the same old way,
At the "good old days of yore,"
I stopped my biz to get a fix,
And to chat, and then get more.

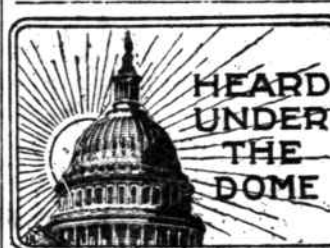
'Twas just four bits, and about two jits,
That I gave each day to Rooney,
And then at 6 I'd give two bits
To that jolly fat man, Mooney.

But now to drink, it's to the sink
That I am forced to travel;
And of this stuff I drink enough
To wash away much gravel.

I save this way a bone each day,
And here's the way I blow it—
It saves my health and conscience wealth,
So I want all to know it:

Monday, one buck for the Red Cross,
Tuesday, one for the "Y,"
Wednesday it goes for tobacco in France,
Thursday—a Belgium guy.
And then two bucks each week I keep—
The third loan's coming soon!
Oh, boy! oh, boy! I'm happy now
To say, "Good-by, saloon!"

PERMANENTLY DISABLED



The Peace Treaties.

Peace treaties negotiated between this and other countries during the period of Mr. Bryan's secretaryship came under the observation of Congressional members yesterday. It was found that while a liberal supply of these very valuable documents are on hand none was written at the time with either Austria, Turkey or Bulgaria.

Thus there are no ties to bind us to pausing before we enter a state of war with any of these countries. We are bound to take sharp account of any momentous, overt act which they may commit. That is we must take account of it if we are to preserve our record of consistency. But if, in the opinion of President Wilson and the members of Congress, it appears that we could further the cause of peace by refusing to break with Austria the means justify the end. We are here not only to bring an end to the British cause, in the opinion of many lawmakers here. Nor would it cause a consequent dimmer reflection on the cause for which the other allies are contending.

What Says the Marquis?

A re-statement of Britain's war aims, suggested by the Marquis of Lansdowne, would not seriously impair the British cause, in the opinion of many lawmakers here. Nor would it cause a consequent dimmer reflection on the cause for which the other allies are contending.

The statement of the Marquis naturally caused a most profound sensation in this city, among administration heads, members of Congress and among the diplomatic representatives. The Marquis' position is working out somewhat on lines of our own President's reply to the Pope's peace proffer. That is, in both documents, it is made very plain that we do not seek the extinction of the German people but of the inhuman system which has overwhelmed them for many years and which has led them disastrously into this mammoth conflict. The Marquis' statement tallies with the spirit of the President's statement in that memorable document to the Pope—and it comes as a natural result of the spread of the doctrine which the President created in that remarkable instrument.

There is this to interest the lawmakers, however, in the Marquis' statement which appears to take precedence over all other matters—if the British re-state their aims there is apt to be a general re-statement among the allies, with the hoped-for effect that great advances could be made toward the day of peace.

It is not believed that the very frank statement which the Marquis made will be received with disregard in Austria and even in Germany. For they are unquestionably as anxious there to end the war as they were to

OPHELIA'S SLATE.



A LINE O' CHEER EACH DAY O' THE YEAR.

By John Kendrick Bangs.

A WINTER THOUGHT.
Here beneath the ice and snow
Fields and gardens lying low
Take their well-earned winter's rest,
Having done their level best
With their harvestings of worth
To enrich our kindly earth.

Hence when ice and snow I see
They're not dreary sights to me,
But the symbol clear and plain
Of an earth released from pain.
And asleep till Spring once more
Gently knocks upon the door
Calling it to work again.

(Copyright, 1917.)

continue it some time ago. If some re-statement of aims can be furnished them which would encourage them to peace and yet which satisfy the allies, as befitting victors in a contest, it might mark the beginning of the end. At least there are possibilities in the matter which encourage the members of Congress at this particular time.

Senator Owen Interested.

Senator Owen may give more attention to a practical marketing scheme during the coming session than he does to any idealistic scheme for world peace. The bill, about which The Herald had considerable to say some time ago, provides for a central marketing and distributing system with cabinet representation, and with officials down to the remotest corners of the country. Senator Owen is confident that the big problem of the country today is not fixing prices suddenly and indiscriminately but providing equitable distribution of food products, and attaching prices thereto after a very well defined and discreet determination of costs of production, and all modifying costs.

The Senator is making an intensive study of the situation and expects to be able to give Congress much information before the session is over. The agricultural committees of both houses will hear the plans expounded to them, and it would not be surprising if the bill, with some slight changes, to which Senator Owen may consent, will come out on the floor for attention.

For Foreign Honors.

The Lodge bill, which passed the Senate and is on the House calendar, after receiving a favorable report at the hands of the Military Committee there, provides that officers of our army may receive foreign decorations during the present war. The question is receiving considerable interesting discussion there days, principally because Secretary Daniels frowned on such a plan. The opinion of many of the leading members is that the boys will not be seriously damaged by being given permission of this government to receive the decorations. In fact, several of the members say they aren't the slightest reason in the world for compelling our fighting men to turn down proffers of foreign decorations. If the countries with which we are allied in this cause are good enough for us to band with in the enterprise of making the world safe for democracy their honors are our honors and can rightfully be received by our men who earn them. That is the way Congress is pretty apt to look at it unless Secretary Daniels can change the minds of more of the members than he appears to have reached thus far.

TREASURY STATEMENT.

Receipts and Disbursements November 28, 1917:

RECEIPTS.	
Ordinary receipts	\$60,815.00
Ordinary internal revenue	2,472,025.48
Income-tax receipts	330,802.50
Miscellaneous receipts	638,912.54
Total ordinary receipts	3,472,555.52
Public-debt receipts	40,897,921.00
Balance previous day	1,899,355.51
Total	1,929,808,119.03

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Ordinary disbursements	\$23,450,628.87
Panama Canal disbursements	71,900.00
Purchases of obligations of foreign governments	37,300,000.00
Public-debt disbursements	11,249,047.76
Balance in the general fund today	1,899,355.51
Total	1,929,808,119.03

Farmers in Bermuda plan to increase the production of corn and will endeavor to supply all local needs. The increased acreage will open a new field for the sale and equipment of corn mills and silos.

U. S. Is Working Silently To Send Army Oversea

Lloyd George's Query Concerning Million Americans in War Service Declared Lacking In Frankness—What America Is Doing.

By MILTON BRONNER.

Premier Lloyd George the other day asked how soon America would have one million men in France, and the following day a New York newspaper, hostile to War Secretary Baker, belabored him because it claimed people thought we already had 700,000 men over the seas.

The truth is that Lloyd George was not frank and the New York newspaper not honest.

It has been known to British authorities from the start that we could not put a million men into France in a hurry and this has been thoroughly understood in this country, too.

The reason is two-fold—lack of trained men and lack of ships to carry them.

Missions from Europe.

Right after our entry into war, missions came from England, France and Italy to see what we were going to do and to tell our government what they would like to have done.

England wanted food, munitions and, above all, money credits. It was tired of giving high interest in loans floated by J. P. Morgan and his associates.

France asked for food, munitions, money credits and men, with the accent decidedly on the men. Joffre hammered away at this persistence.

The administration, anxious to do its full share as quickly as possible, was confronted by conditions created by the German U-boat campaign.

There was a shortage of ships and the vessels could not carry supplies for our allies and men and supplies for an army too.

The result was a compromise plan. We fixed money credits, and sent food, some munitions and some coal. Also we sent some soldiers. The latter were rushed over so France might have visible evidence that we were in the war. And as fast as we could send them and had ships to carry them, we have been dispatching more troops.

But we are also limited by the number of trained men we have.

Scarcely this year. He asserted that he would vote for Federal financial aid to the railroads "if that will help win the war."

He told the President he was sure there would be no railroad labor difficulty this year. He asserted that he would vote for Federal financial aid to the railroads "if that will help win the war."

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tional Army. But nearly two-thirds of the regulars are "rookies" who have joined since we entered the war. Nearly half the National Guard are in like case. And, of course, all of the National Army is made up of selective service men.

This means that a huge job has to be done before we can send them to France. They must be trained. Their officers must be graduated from training camps. Rifles, pistols, machine guns and equipment must be manufactured. This takes months.

We will have a very respectable sized army in France by spring; quite a large one by summer. And it will keep growing as fast as a hard-working War Department can manage. Plans have been made for a long war, a war in which the talk of millions and not of hundreds of thousands. But army officers are not proclaiming what they are doing. As fast as a body of troops is ready for intensive training and as fast as the ships are provided—they are sent.

And they land in France where a vast amount of preparatory work is being done. New docks and piers are being built, warehouses and munitions dumps erected, railroads and auto roads constructed. This takes an army of workmen—and the workmen are over there on the job.

Some day, when the full story can be revealed, the nation will realize that Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War, has been doing something more than sit in an inner office and twiddle his thumbs.

"Going to Lick Kaiser," Declares Georgia Solon

"If the Kaiser isn't licked by spring we're going to do it ourselves. I'm going to vote for anything that will help win this war."

This was the message brought to the White House yesterday by Representative Adamson of Georgia, father of the railroad eight-hour law.

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